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## Glynn Virden Collier, 1922 – 2020

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Originally posted April 18, 2020



Glynn Virden Collier, of Goldthwaite, Texas died March 11, 2020 at the age of 97. He was descended from Efford Cobb Collier (a grandson of Vines Collier) and Elizabeth Singleton Harris. In 1857, Efford Cobb left Upson County, Georgia and relocated his family to Texas.

Glynn Virden Collier's line from Vines is as follows:

Vines Collier and Sarah Elizabeth Williamson

Robert Collier and Martha Marshall Booker

Efford Cobb Collier and Elizabeth Singleton Harris

Isaac Groves Collier and Elizabeth Ann Phillips

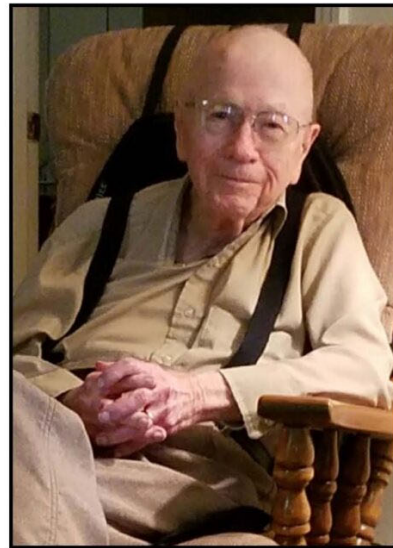
Thomas Jefferson Collier and Martha Bell Virden

Glynn Virden Collier

Here is his obituary (courtesy of Stacy-Wilkins Funeral Home).

**The Prayer of St. Francis de Sales**

Be at peace.  
Do not look forward in fear to the changes of life;  
rather look to them with full hope as they arise.  
God, whose very own you are,  
will deliver you from out of them.  
He has kept you hitherto,  
and He will lead you safely through all things;  
and when you cannot stand it,  
God will bury you in his arms.  
Do not fear what may happen tomorrow;  
the same everlasting Father who cares for you today  
will take care of you then and every day.  
He will either shield you from suffering,  
or will give you unfailing strength to bear it.  
Be at peace,  
and put aside all anxious thoughts and imaginations.



In Loving Memory of  
**Glynn Virden Collier**  
November 23, 1922-March 11, 2020

  
**STACY-WILKINS**  
FUNERAL HOME  
1415 Parker Street / PO Box 548  
Goldthwaite, Texas 76844  
p. 325.648.2255 f. 325.648.2765  
stacywilkins@me.com

In Loving Memory of  
**Glynn Virden Collier**  
November 23, 1922-March 11, 2020

**Date of Service**  
Saturday, March 14, 2020

**Time of Service**  
1:00 PM

**Place of Service**  
First United Methodist Church  
Goldthwaite, Texas

**Place of Interment**  
Goldthwaite Memorial Cemetery  
Goldthwaite, Texas

**Officiating**  
Bro. Doug Holtzclaw  
Rev. John Alsbrooks  
Marcus Neddleton

**Pallbearers**

Tommy Head	Steve Patrick
Dwayne McCasland	Felton Wright
Danny Long	Roger Horton
Ray Koen	Allen Mills
Tom Cody Graves	

**Order of Service**

"In The Garden" .....	Suzie Tyson
Scriptures & Prayer.....	Rev. John Alsbrooks
"How Great Thou Art" .....	Congregation
Obituary.....	Marcus Neddleton
"Great Is Thy Faithfulness" .....	Congregation
Message.....	Brother Doug Holtzclaw
Benediction / Lord's Prayer .....	Brother Doug Holtzclaw
"Lead Me Home" .....	Jamey Johnson

Glynn Virden Collier was born November 22, 1922. He was preceded in death by his wife Oleta Horton Collier; his parents Thomas Jefferson Collier and Martha Bell, and an infant brother John Issac Collier.

He is survived by his son, Tommy Collier and partner Richard Hisey of Dallas, TX; daughter Kay Collier Lindsay of Goldthwaite, TX; two grandchildren: Laramie Lindsay and wife Mattie of Goldthwaite, TX; and Jessica Lindsay and Tyrone McKinney of Stephenville, TX; as well as four great granddaughters: Landree Lindsay, Brooklyn McKinney, Laiken Lindsay, and Leighton Lindsay. He is also survived by one brother Bill Collier and wife Martha, of Waco, TX.

Upon marrying in 1954 Glynn and Oleta wanted to begin a family, but faced with medical complications they were unable to have children of their own. So working with the Methodist Church and various service agencies, Glynn and Oleta adopted Tommy in 1959, and Kay in 1964 at birth from Edna Gladney of Fort Worth. Glynn took such joy in his children and their lives. His unconditional love for his family was forever strong.

Glynn was an active member of the Methodist Church. He served on numerous church committees, was a member of the Choir and a member of the Methodist Men's Quartet for over 50 years. He was a lifetime member of the Fidelis Sunday School class. He enjoyed working with youth and led Methodist Youth Fellowship.

He was a Mason for 75 years and achieved Master Mason.

Glynn had a servant's heart and devoted much of his life to ensuring others needs were met. He was active with the Red Cross, Salvation Army and youth camps. He sponsored and drove kids to camp each summer.

Through the years, Glynn was active in Lions Club, served on the City Council, and worked on many projects in Mills County such as building a bandstand in the city park, as well as a new civic center.

During the Vietnam era Glynn helped young men prepare to leave, and worked to bridge communications between men sent afar and their families back home.

Glynn enjoyed tinkering at his farm a few miles out of town. He enjoyed getting outside and worked to improve his land. He and Oleta would enjoy the evening drives together.

After retiring Glynn and Oleta spent a few years traveling and enjoyed numerous tours with their friends. Glynn, however, was never one who liked to be away from home long. Goldthwaite was his foundation.

Glynn was an accomplished businessman. He worked for Mills County State Bank in a career spanning 75 years. When jobs were scarce in the 1940s Glynn began working at Trent State Bank sweeping floors. He was a teller and held many others positions, including President. He led the bank through many growth stages.

Above all Glynn was a gentle soul, loving husband, compassionate father and loyal friend. He took a genuine interest in others and always asked how things were going in their lives. He cared deeply about his community.

He mentored many, and inspired others to do their best. With his calm demeanor, witty personality, and heartfelt laugh he was a joy to be around.

In 2017, Kendel Hopper, a high school student, was awarded a scholarship by the Mills County Historical Commission for a essay that resulted from his interview with Glynn Collier (see below).



# Interview Essay: Glynn Collier

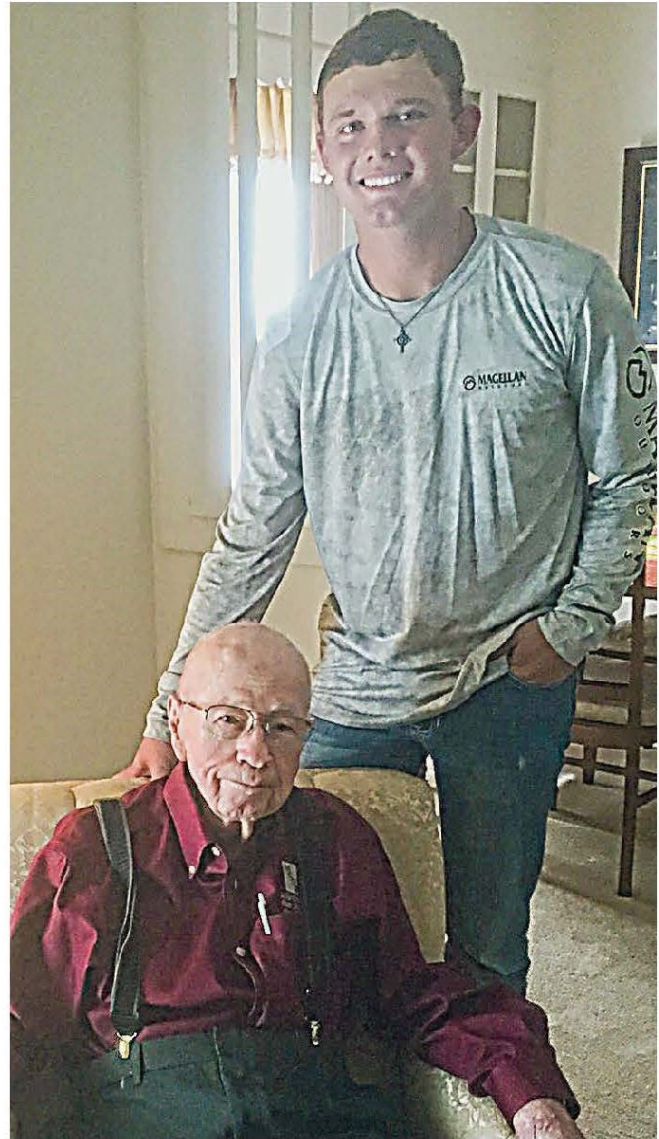
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By Kendel Hopper

*AUTHOR'S NOTE: It was an honor to get to interview Mr. Collier. He is an amazing man with so much knowledge. He is very kind and patient. My writing skills do not do justice to the wealth of information he has to share. When my parents pray for me, I have heard them ask God to send people into my life who will influence me in a positive way. I think their prayers were answered when I got the opportunity to spend several hours with Mr. Collier. He has made a lasting impression on me, one that I will not forget.*

Our country's twenty-sixth President, Theodore Roosevelt, once said "Every man owes a part of his time and money to the business or industry in which he is engaged. No man has a moral right to withhold his support from an organization that is striving to improve conditions within his sphere." President Roosevelt could very well have used Glynn Virden Collier to exemplify his statement.

Mr. Collier was born on November 23, 1922 in Goldthwaite, Texas to Thomas Jefferson Collier and Martha Bell Virden Collier. Thomas Collier grew up around Center City and Martha lived near Pleasant Grove. She was a teacher and would travel around teaching at different schools in Mills County on different days of the week. It was necessary that schools be within walking distance for children. In 1910, there were fifty-two public schools and sixty-five teachers in Mills County. Martha also attended classes at North Texas University in Denton, Texas during the summer months to further her own education. Goldthwaite had about 2,800 residents at that time and approximately ninety-five businesses. Mills County was just thirty-five years old and boasted a population of just over 9,000 residents. Henry Ford had invented the Model T automobile, also called the "Tin Lizzie", just about a decade before, and his invention was becoming popular in Mills County at an affordable price of \$290 off the assembly line.



Glynn Collier and Kendel Hopper

Mr. Collier graduated from Goldthwaite High School in 1940. Franklin D. Roosevelt was in his second term as President of the United States, the first color television was demonstrated in New York City, and German dictator, Adolf Hitler, was busy invading foreign lands. In Mills County, crop production continued to decline because of droughts and the Great Depression as did the population of the county which was recorded that year at 7,951. Cropland that was once plowed and planted was becoming pasture for the growing number of sheep and goats. Eighteen-year-old Glynn Collier headed off to John Tarleton College and later Texas A&M University where he studied Agricultural Economics. But, World War II interrupted his studies. He eventually received a medical discharge from the Army and returned home with plans to continue his education. However, it was mid-semester and he was not able to return to classes. So, he began seeking employment.

Any story that is written about both Mills County and Glynn Collier would not be complete unless it also included Mills County State Bank. Mr. Collier's career in banking began in July 1943 when E.T. Fairman, President of Trent State Bank, offered him a job at the bank. At that time, the bank was located at the corner of Fourth and Fisher Streets in Goldthwaite. Mr. Fairman told him that the job would pay \$60.00 a month and it would be several months before he was worth that! But Mr. Collier, having grown up during the Great Depression, appreciated the opportunity and accepted the offer. He performed his duties diligently which ranged from hand posting transactions in a ledger to acting as janitor and was promoted through various officer positions of the bank. On January 1, 1952, the Board of Directors of Trent State Bank elected to change the name of the bank to Mills County State Bank. In 1959, Glynn V. Collier was elected to the Board of Directors. The bank moved to new facilities at 1017 Parker Street, in June 1961, where it remains today. Mr. Collier was present in the bank when a robbery occurred in the fall of 1962. He vividly recalls the details of how a nineteen-year-old man from Abilene walked into the lobby of the bank and took approximately \$2,600 in cash and checks at gun point and then fled only to be captured a short time later by a group of law enforcement officers led by Mills County Sheriff C.F. Stubblefield. In 1981, Mr. Collier succeeded Warren P. Duren as President of Mills County State Bank and served in that capacity until his retirement in 1988. He remains on the Board of Directors of Mills County State Bank today.

Mr. Collier has served in many organizations in Mills County. He was a loving husband of sixty years to Oleta Horton Collier and a wonderful father to their two children. He credits his distinguished and successful career in banking to taking care of his own responsibilities and giving top priority to the bank and the community. He has seen a lot of changes in his lifetime but has not let progress come before his commitment to the people of Mills County.

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